er portions of the spinal cord. The results confirm Müller's opinion that the functions of the bladder and rectum are vegetative in character, and are innervated chiefly from the sympathetic nervous system. The article contains some very valuable data regarding the investigation of the disturbances of these functions in diseases.

J. SAILER (Philadelphia).

Centralblatt für Nervenheilkunde und Psychiatrie.

(1902. March 15.)

1. Experiments with Non-isolation Treatment and Hydrotherapeutic Measures. W. ALTER.
2. Embarrassment under Observation. VON BECHTEREW.
3. New Toxic and Therapeutic Properties of the Blood-serum of Epileptics and their Practical Applications. CARLO CENI.
4. Comments on F. Nissl's Paper: "Hysterical Symptoms in Simple Mental Disturbances." ERNEST STORCH. Reply by F. NISSL.

1. *Non-isolation and Hydrotherapy.*—In the Leubas Asylum it has been the custom to isolate many of the chronic insane on account of violence, etc. Alter has succeeded in managing these cases in open wards through the systematic use of prolonged baths and packs. At first patients were kept in the bath at a temperature of 34° to 36° C. from 1½ to 3 or 4 hours; later in some cases the period was extended to 12 or 14 hours. Sometimes preliminary and adjuvant doses of paraldehyde, trional or chloral were employed to render the subject more tractable, but soon it was possible to dispense with drugs, the patient gaining in weight, becoming quiet and sleeping well.

2. *Embarrassment under Observation.*—Von Bechterew describes three neurasthenics in whom palpitation of the heart, confusion, weakness of the limbs, etc., lasting about five minutes, were prone to come on when anyone "caught the eye" of the patient. Bechterew formerly reported such a case in which this symptom of "Blickschen" coexisted with "forced laughter."

3. *Blood-serum of Epileptics.*—Ceni claims to have begun simultaneously with D'Abundo (1898) his study of the question whether the blood-serum from a bad case of epilepsy can modify the condition of a milder one. Of six epileptics studied, two showed symptoms of true poisoning from the injections, while in the others no effect was discerned. Ceni concluded from this that the blood-serum of epileptics contains no antitoxic substance in the true sense, but does contain a special poison. Whether the resistance of the organism to this special poison can be increased, perhaps to the point of rendering the subject immune to its effects, was then studied in two ways: first, the blood-serum of one epileptic was injected into another in increasing doses; second, a patient's blood-serum was re-injected into his own circulation some days later. Ceni was able to answer the question in the affirmative from the results of each of these methods. Of eight epileptics thus treated two showed toxic effects, but the others were greatly improved both as regards the motor manifestations of their disease, and as regards psychic and sensory symptoms, so that an actual cure may be hoped for in some cases. Ceni concludes that these properties reside in certain products of tissue-change which in life are attached to the formed elements of the blood and only after removal of the latter from the body become free in the serum from contact with the "outerworld;" so that in epileptics "a natural auto-immunization is not possible."

4. Storch's comments on Nissl's paper are, as Nissl declares in his reply, "polemical." It is facetious and not of serious value.

PICKETT (Philadelphia).

Monatsschrift für Psychiatrie und Neurologie.

(1902. March, Vol. 11, No. 3.)

1. Further Contribution to the Study of Cerebral Syphilis of the Præcox and Malignant Variety. GIOVANNI MINGAZZINI.
2. The Neuro-fibrillæ in Nerve Cells and Nerve Fibers of the Retina. HEINRICH VOGT.
3. Pathological Anatomy of Paralytic Dementia. THEODORE KÄS.
4. Degeneration of Perception. OTTO GROSS.
5. Experiment of Psycho-physiological Representation of Sense Perception. STORCH.

1. *Further Contribution to the Study of Cerebral Syphilis of the Praecox and Malignant Variety.*—Mingazzini reports 4 cases of cerebral syphilis, one of the præcox variety and 3 of malignant or rapid course. The author believes the autopsy findings show that such cases have fairly constant lesions not found in ordinary syphilis, namely, multiple softenings and hemorrhages in different portions of the brain. From a clinical standpoint the malignancy is materially increased by such infections as scrofula, tuberculosis, malaria and scorbutus. Although most authors hold that the malignant course of syphilis is induced by alcoholic excesses, in one of the author's own cases alcohol and all other secondary infections could be absolutely ruled out. Anti-syphilitic treatment is especially inefficacious in malignant (cerebral) syphilis. Luetics should be warned against the use of alcohol and avoid mental and physical overstrain.

2. *The Neuro-fibrillae in Nerve Cells and Nerve Fibers of the Retina.*—Vogt studied the ganglion cells of the retina in a number of vertebrates, including man, by methylene blue, Holmgren's and Bethe's method. In all his preparations the author found a fibrillary network in the cell, its process an axis cylinder, however the findings were best shown by Bethe's method. The fibers were mostly arranged in definite bundles. The intracellular ramifications of the fibrillæ were exceedingly complex in cells possessing the greatest number of dendrites. In addition to the fibers which passed through the cell to enter a process on the opposite side bundles were often observed broken up at the periphery entrance, some fibers of which entered the adjacent dendrites. Occasionally nerve fibers were found anastomosing with each other without the agency of a cell body (dynamical polaritate). The central cell nucleus was always surrounded by a free non-fibrillary space. Here and there ganglion cells showed bundles which contained fibers arranged rope-like or a large number twining around one or two fibrillæ tendril like. The brain of the calf presents a similar picture in different sections and with different stains. Cell anastomosis was not found in man because of poor specimens. Ganglion cells of the horse showed the best anastomosis. Specimens showed no anastomosis between processes of the same cell. Many axis-cylinders terminated in an actual formation of pericellular network which was in direct continuity with the intracellular network. The author concludes from his extensive studies that a neuro-fibrillary structure of nerve cells and their processes, as well as their continuity, is abundantly proven. Microphotographs and plate drawings accompany the text.